

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 A-01 OPR-02

SY-05 COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 OC-05 CCO-00 ACDA-10

OMB-01 /090 W

----- 130738

R 301428Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9928

USIA WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMCONSUL HAMBURG

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

UNCLAS HELSINKI 0884

VIENNA FOR REX

FRANKFURT FOR FRDCO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, ETRA, ATRN, EAIR, FI

SUBJECT: FINNAIR STRIKE ENDS: DOCKERS REJECT HARBOR SETTLEMENT

REF: A) HELSINKI 0851, B) HELSINKI 0738

1. NEGOTIATIONS WITH FINNAIR PILOTS TO END THEIR "ITALIAN"
STRIKE CONCLUDED WITH AGREEMENT SATISFACTORY TO BOTH
PARTIES APRIL 29. FINNAIR FLIGHTS RESUMED AT FULL STRENGTH
APRIL 30.

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2. RESULT OF LONGSHOREMEN'S VOTING ON COMPROMISE IN

MONTH-LONG DOCK STRIKE WAS NEGATIVE. ABOUT 80 PERCENT OF THOSE VOTING REJECTED SETTLEMENT WHICH NEEDED MINIMUM ONE-THIRD APPROVAL FOR ACCEPTANCE. DESPITE NEGATIVE VOTE SOME FINNISH HARBORS MAY REOPEN MONDAY, MAY 3. THIS WOULD OCCUR IF LONGSHOREMEN'S PARENT UNION, THE FINNISH TRANSPORT WORKERS UNION (AKT), SIGNS COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT ON LONGSHOREMEN'S BEHALF THIS WEEKEND. UNION EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETS AT NOON MAY 2. IT WILL BE UNDER HEAVY PRESSURE SINCE BOTH FINNISH TRADE UNION CONFEDERATION (SAK) AND PRIME MINISTER MIETTUNEN ISSUED STRONG STATEMENTS APRIL 30 CONDEMNING CONTINUATION OF STRIKE.

3. IF AKT EXECUTIVE BOARD -- WHICH IS CONTROLLED BY SOCIAL DEMOCRATS -- OVERRULES LONGSHOREMEN'S VOTE AND SIGNS COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT ON THEIR BEHALF, ABOUT HALF OF DOCK-WORKERS ARE EXPECTED TO RETURN TO THEIR JOBS IMMEDIATELY. FIRST PORTS TO RESUME OPERATIONS WOULD BE MOSTLY THOSE IN NORTH AND WEST: OULU, KOKKOLA, VAASA, MANTYLUOTO, RAUMA AND HANKO. HELSINKI AND TURKU WOULD SOON FOLLOW. MOST DIFFICULT SITUATION EXISTS IN HAMINA AND KOTKA WHICH COULD REMAIN OUT FOR UP TO TWO MORE WEEKS EVEN IF AGREEMENT SIGNED.

HOUSTON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DISPUTE SETTLEMENT, STRIKE SETTLEMENT, AIRCRAFT PILOTS, LABOR STRIKES, LONGSHOREMEN
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976HELSIN00884
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760167-0414
From: HELSINKI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t1976044/aaaaacpq.tel
Line Count: 83
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 HELSINKI 851, 76 HELSINKI 738
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 SEP 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 SEP 2004 by cookms>; APPROVED <10 NOV 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FINNAIR STRIKE ENDS: DOCKERS REJECT HARBOR SETTLEMENT
TAGS: ELAB, ETRD, ATRN, EAIR, FI, FINNAIR
To: STATE USIA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006